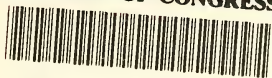


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HACKSTAFF'S

1853.

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GUIDE BOOK

OF

NIAGARA FALLS.



ILLUSTRATED

WITH A

N E W M A P

AND VIEWS OF THE FALLS.

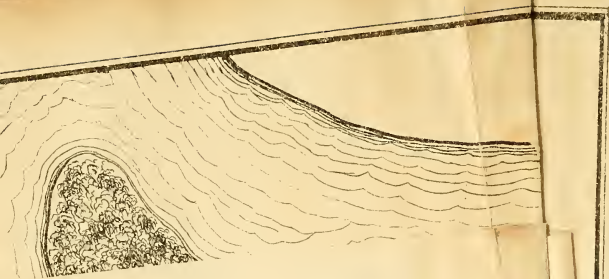
NIAGARA FALLS.

PUBLISHED BY W. E. TUNIS & CO.

1853.







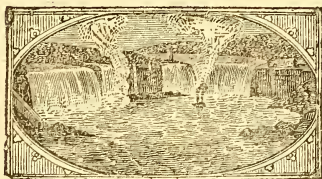
1853.

HACKSTAFF'S

NEW GUIDE BOOK

OF

NIAGARA FALLS.



ILLUSTRATED WITH A
NEW MAP AND VIEWS OF THE FALLS.

NIAGARA FALLS:

PUBLISHED BY W. E. TUNIS & CO.

.....
1853.



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N8H14

TO THE READER.

We present to strangers a new Hand-Book of the Falls, being a concise Directory to the many interesting places in this vicinity.

This compilation we believe to be full and comprehensive. We have avoided giving any laborious descriptions of the Falls, or of the different scenes around, because such are to be found every where; and we think, too, that every one who visits this land of "many wonders" can himself best comprehend and describe the objects presented.

Captain Basil Hall remarks, "All parts of Niagara are on a scale which baffles every attempt of the imagination, and it were ridiculous therefore, to think of describing it; the ordinary means of description, I mean analogy, and direct comparison, with things which are most accessible, fail entirely in the case of that amazing cataract, which is altogether unique."

"All the pictures you may see," say J. J. Audubon, "all the descriptions you may read, of these mighty falls, can only produce in your mind the faint glimmer of the glow worm, compared with the overpowering glory of the meridian sun."

ADVICE TO VISITORS.

Much of the beauty and grandeur of the scenery at the Falls is lost by not viewing them at different points at seasonable hours.

The proper time on the American side and Iris Island, is in the *morning*, from 8 to half past 11; on the British side in the *evening*, from 1 to half past 5.

The reason is obvious. In each case the spectator has the sun in rear, while its splendid reflections are painted in front. The overpowering glare of light and heat is thus avoided, and the eye reposes with an open gaze, without pain or effort, on the gorgeous scene.

This advice is designed particularly for those who remain long enough with us to be able to follow it at their leisure. Those who hasten away at the ringing of the first car bell, leave us with but faint impressions of the wonders and beauties of Niagara in the season of their grandeur, when flowers and shrubs and foliage are in their prime, and all the air is filled with aroma, and the sweet music of birds— for here are to be found exotics and strange birds which seem to gather from afar to pay their homage at this august shrine of nature.

TABLE OF DISTANCES,

From Ferry landing to Chippawa, - -	3	Miles
From Fort Schlosser across to Chippawa, -	3	"
Across the River at the Falls, . - -	3-4	"
To Goat Island by the Bridge, - - -	58	Rods
Across the Falls on the American side, -	56	"
Across the foot of Goat Island, - - -	160	"
Across the Horse Shoe Fall, - - -	114	"
From the Hotels to Table Rock, - - -	1½	Miles
From the Hotels to the top of the bank, -	100	Rods
Top of the bank down the Stair-case to the River, 22	"	
Width of the River at the Ferry, - - -	76	"
Up the Canada bank, - - - -	76	"
From the Falls to the Mineral Springs, -	2	Miles
To the Suspension Bridge, - - - -	1½	"
To the Whirlpool, - - - -	3	"
To the Devil's Hole, - - - -	3½	"
To Mount Eagle, - - - -	4	"
Depth of water at the edge of Horse Shoe Fall,	20	Feet
Depth of water at the Ferry, - - - -	180	"

Number of Steps at the Ferry,	290	Steps
" " Whirlpool,	85	"
" " Devil's Hole,	64	"
" " Mt. Eagle,	90	"
" " Biddle Stairs	115	"

N I A G A R A .

How dreadful is this place!" for God is here !
His name is graven on the eternal rocks,
As with an iron pen and diamond's point;
While their unceasing floods his voice proclaim,
As if their thunder shakes the distant hills.

O ! if the forest trees, which have grown old
In viewing all the wonders of the scene,
Do tremble still, and cast to earth their leaves,—
Familiar as they are with things sublime—
Shall not the timid stranger here unloose
His sandals, ere he treads on " holy ground,"
And bow in humble worship to his God ?

For unto such as do approach with awe,
This bright creation of the Immortal Mind,
Methinks there comes, amid the deafening roar
Of " many waters," yet a " still small voice,"
Which saith, " Ye children of the dust, fear not,—
Know that this God, this awful God, is *yours* !"

Yes, here have wrath and peace together met—
Justice and Mercy sweetly have embraced ;
For o'er the terrors of the angry flood,
The bow of promise and of beauty hangs,
When in the sunbeams, with its matchless hues,
Or as a silver arch on evening's brow,
Saying, " God's works are marvelous and great,
But ah ! when understood, his name is Love."

NIAGARA FALLS

Are situated on the Niagara River, which unites Lake Erie and the upper lakes with Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence. The river is thirty-five miles in length, and from one-half mile to five or six in width. The banks of the river vary in their height, above the Falls, from four to one hundred feet. Immediately below the Falls the precipice is not less than two hundred feet, and from thence to Lake Ontario gradually diminishes to the height of twenty-five or thirty. The Niagara river contains a number of islands, the principal of which is Grand Island, ceded to the state of New-York by the Seneca Nation Indians, in 1815. This island is twelve miles long, and from two to seven broad.

The Falls are situated below Grand Island, about twenty miles distant from Lake Erie, and fourteen from Lake Ontario. At Chippewa creek, three miles above the Falls, the width of the river is nearly three miles, and its current extremely rapid. From thence to the Falls it gradually narrows to about one mile in width. The descent of the rapids has been estimated at fifty-eight feet. The course of the river above the Falls is north-westwardly, and below it turns abruptly to the north-east, and flows about a mile and a half, when it assumes a northern direction to Lake Ontario. The cataract pours over a summit in the form of a crescent, extending some distance up the stream. The sheet of water is separated by Goat Island, leaving the grand fall on the Canada side, about six hundred yards wide, and the high fall on the American side, about three hundred. The fall on the American side drops almost perpendicularly to the distance of one hundred

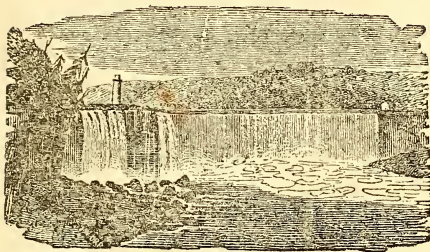
and sixty-four feet. The grand or horse-shoe fall, on the Canada side, descends to the river below in the form of a curve, one hundred and fifty-eight feet, projecting about fifty feet from the base. The whole height, including the descent of the rapids above, is two hundred and sixteen feet.

About a quarter of a mile above the falls, a bridge has been constructed from the shore to Bath Island, which is connected by means of another bridge, with Goat Island. The sensation in crossing these bridges and particularly the first, over the tremendous rapids beneath, is calculated to alarm the traveller for his safety, and hasten him in his excursion to the island. On Bath Island, mills have been erected, contiguous to what is termed the *race-way*, which divides Bath from Goat Island. The latter, which is three hundred and thirty yards broad, is principally a wilderness. On the southern and western banks an extensive view is had of the rapids above and of the grand fall on the Canada side. But the best view of the latter is obtained from a small bridge, which has been erected from the island to the *Terrapin Rocks*, adjoining the falls, three hundred feet from the shore.

At the foot of Goat Island is what is called the *Biddle stair-way*. This affords a safe and easy passage to a position more favorable than any other, for viewing this great work of nature.

The amount of water which passes over the respective falls, has been estimated at more than 100 millions of tons an hour. No method can be devised for ascertaining the depth of the principal fall; but it is not improbable that it may be six or 800 feet, as the depth of the stream half a mile below is from 250 to 260 feet.

GUIDE BOOK
OF
NIAGARA FALLS.



GOING THE ROUNDS.

FERRY—POINT VIEW.

On arriving at the Falls, on the American side, and the choice of Hotels is made—or you at once are induced to take one of the many conveyances direct to the Suspension Bridge—or desire first of all to cast a hasty glance at the Falls;—if the latter is your decision, then take Fall-street and pass the old Buffalo and Niagara Falls Railroad Depot, and enter the grove beyond; the road which passes through the grove will soon lead you to the Ferry House and *Point View*.

No one having time should omit crossing the river; no where does a person realize the height and grandeur of the Falls, as from the ferry boat.

POINT VIEW.

Here you have the whole mass of falling waters before you. Point View is unquestionably the best place for you to first approach the great cataract, and commands the best view of the Falls. Abbot's Point, the last residence of the Hermit of the Falls, is near this spot, which was selected by him from among all others, to sit in his cabin with his guitar in his hands, to chant his favorite airs to the Goddess of Niagara, with none but his pet cat and dog as listeners.

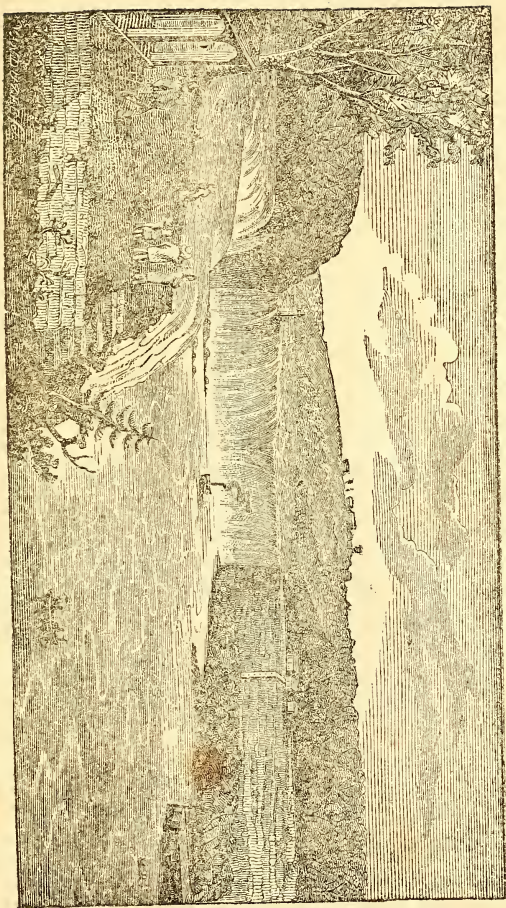
CATARACT POINT.

From *Point View* descend the rise of grounds to the point called "*Cataract Point*;" you can with safety descend the bank at this point; there is no point about the Falls that has more attractions than this. You can better appreciate the height of the American Falls at this place, than any other on the top of the bank, as you are nearly on the level of the water, and can watch its descent, until the sheet dashes into spray on the rocks below; and if your stay should be prolonged at the Falls, you could not be satisfied by once visiting Cataract Point. From this ascend the steps to the level above and proceed to the waters edge at the American Fall, this is called "*Table Point*;" at this point, you may by carefully holding on to the bushes, lean forward and view the chasm below, into which the water empties.

BATH ISLAND.

After viewing this scene to your satisfaction, take the path directly on the bank of the river up the stream, until you arrive at a bridge that crosses the rapids to Bath Island. This is called *Bath Island*

VIEW FROM POINT VIEW—NEAR THE FERRY—AMERICAN SIDE.



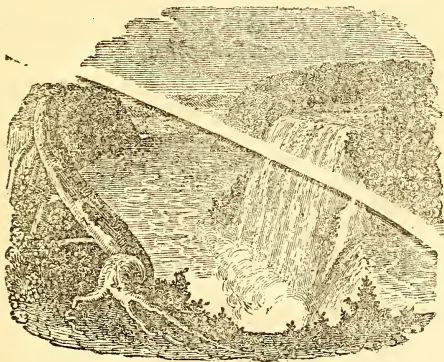


Bridge. Cross the bridge, enter the toll house, pay twenty-five cents, register your name, and this will entitle you to cross and recross as often as you like during your visit, or for the current year.

On one of the piers of this bridge was found the bonnet and shawl of Mrs. Miller, who disappeared so mysteriously from the Eagle Hotel of this village in November 1850.

GOAT ISLAND.

Proceed from Bath Island across the Bridge, which takes you to Goat Island. Ascend the bank and take the road to the right, pass on to the "Hog's Back," which is the extreme point of the Island.



HOG'S BACK.

Nearly under this point, between the Biddle Staircase and the Cave of the Winds, Doct. Hungerford of West Troy, N. Y., was killed by falling rocks while viewing the Falls from below, in May, 1839.

CENTRE FALL.

Descend the bank by the path at this point, to the Cascade or Centre Fall. By looking directly across this centre fall, you will discover three Profiles under the edge of the American Fall. Pass over the narrow bridge, and you are on Luna Island.

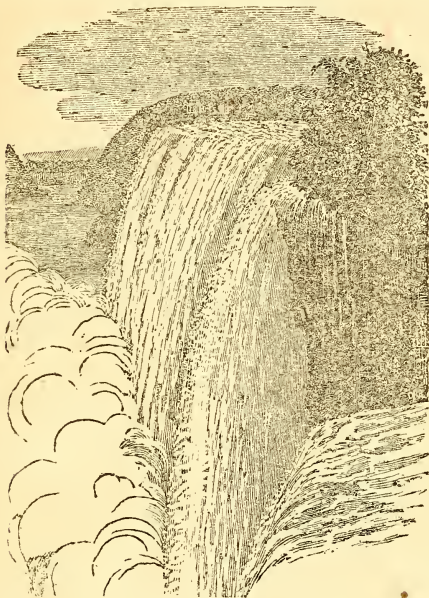
LUNA ISLAND.

Cross to the opposite side of Luna Island and you reach a point which affords you the best view of the American Fall.

At this spot in June 1849 occurred a most heart-rending accident. Mr. Charles Addington, a young man of much promise, in the midst of a party of joyous friends, advanced to a little girl, the daughter of Mrs. DeForest, who was also present, and touching her playfully on the shoulder, said, "I am going to throw you in;" the effect of which was to cause her to spring forward, and losing her balance she fell into the water, followed by young Addington. He caught her in his arms and vainly endeavored to cast her to the shore—a second of time took them over the Falls, forever beyond the reach of mortal help. Their lifeless bodies were recovered from the water beaten rocks below.

SAM PATCH'S LEAP.

Retrace your steps to the top of the bank. Proceed a few rods up the current, to the Biddle steps. You can descend the steps, or continue on to the Horse Shoe Falls. At this point Sam Patch made two leaps, from a platform raised on a ladder, 96 feet above the water's edge.



View looking down the River.

CAVE OF THE WINDS.

At the bottom of the stairway you will find two paths leading in opposite directions. First take the path to the right, down the current. Follow this path until you arrive at the Centre Fall. Behind this sheet of water is the "Cave of the Winds."—If you have the curiosity, as many have, to pass under this sheet of water, into the Cave, you may do so. All who visit the Cave of the Winds speak of it in high terms.

This Cave is directly under the Central Fall, and is formed by a projection of the rocks, over which the water flows from above. The cave is about eighty feet in length, by sixty in breadth, handsomely arched from the base to the verge of the precipice above. This cave has been heretofore inaccessible, except by a perilous adventure in a boat from the ferry, and landing on the rocks between the Central and American Falls, and entering the cave on the opposite side, until the spring of 1849, when the proprietors of the island, at considerable expense, excavated the rocks, erected steps, and contracted the stream above in such a manner that this cave can now with ease and safety be visited by those who have the curiosity of seeing all that may be seen, by getting thoroughly drenched with the falling spray.

HORSE SHOE FALLS.

When you have sufficiently studied the sublimity and grandeur which this point affords, return to the Biddle steps; continue your walk up the agitated stream. If the wind should be up the river, proceed onward to the foot of the Horse Shoe Fall.—Cast your eyes upwards whence this mighty torrent comes, then downwards in its descent into the foaming gulf, and you will be lost in doubt whether to wonder most at the grandeur above, or the sublimity below. Such scenes are only for silent meditation.

Horse-Shoe Fall, viewed as a single object, is unquestionably one of the most sublime things in nature. It is impossible, by description, or penciling, to convey an idea to the reader of the effect produced upon the beholder.

A CRASH.

On Friday evening, the 28th day of April, 1843, a large portion of projecting rock, near the Biddle Steps fell, with a tremendous crash, slightly damaging the Biddle Steps. The large rock that fell measured 25 feet in length, 12 in width and six in thickness; it lies directly in front of the steps leading down the bank, about half way from the perpendicular bank to the water's edge. There were some very choice minerals obtained from the rocks that fell. The steps have since been repaired, and visitors may descend them with perfect safety.

TERRAPIN BRIDGE.

Returning to the Biddle steps to the height of the Island, and taking a little necessary rest, proceed up the current until you arrive at a point called "Prospect place." Descend the bank to "Terrapin bridge;" pass over the bridge and ascend an Observatory 45 feet high; from this height you have an impressive view of the Falls. A gentleman from Troy, N. Y., in the winter of 1852, while passing over the Bridge to the Tower, fell into the river, was instantly carried to the verge of the precipice, and lodged between two rocks. Hugh Brewster and L. Davy rescued him, by throwing some lines in the direction; he had just sufficient strength left to tie them around his body, and they drew him to the Bridge, whence he was taken to the Hotel. He remained speechless for several hours, but finally recovered and returned to his home.

THE FALLEN ROCK.

On Sunday February, 1, 1852, a portion of the precipice, near the Tower, on the South side of Goat Island, fell with a mighty crash. This portion extended from the edge of the Island toward the Tower being about 125 feet long, and about 60 feet wide, of a somewhat elliptical shape, and reaching from the top to near the bottom of the fall. The next day, another piece, triangular, with a base of about 40 feet, broke off just below the Tower. But the next great performance was the most remarkable.— Between the two portions that had previously fallen stood a rectangular projection, about 30 feet long and 15 feet wide, extending from top to bottom of the precipice. This immense mass became loosened from the main body of rock, and *settled perpendicular by about eight feet*, where it now stands an enormous column two hundred feet high, by the dimensions named above.

THE THREE SISTERS.

The three islands near the head of Iris Island, are called the THREE SISTERS. The further one of this group of islands is the one from which Mr. Joel R. Robinson, of this village, rescued a Mr. Allen, in the summer of 1841, who was cast upon its inhospitable shore, in the following manner: Mr. Allen started in a boat for Chippewa (three miles up the river, on the opposite shore,) near sundown, and having the misfortune, while in the centre of the river, of breaking an oar, only one chance of escape seemed to present itself, and that was by steering his boat with the remaining oar, to the head of Iris Island. In this he was disappointed, as he found he could not contend with the rapids. The last resort

to save his life was to make one of this group of islands. His boat dashed through the rapids with the speed of a racehorse, near the outer island. He sprang from his boat, and reached the island without much injury. Having matches in his pocket, he struck a light on the head of the island, as a signal of distress, which was not discovered until the next morning, when a smoke was seen curling through the tops of the cedars on the island. As soon as it was made known that there was a man upon this isolated island, many of the villagers went to the head of Iris Island, to ascertain, if possible, who the unfortunate individual might be; but he could not be recognized.

Upon inquiry, however, it was ascertained, that Mr. Allen had started in a skiff for Chippewa the evening before, and had not returned; and there was no doubt but that he was the unfortunate individual. Mr. Robinson began making preparations to effect his deliverance. The first attempt proved unsuccessful; but he succeeded in getting a boat across the rapids, by means of a cord thrown over by a leaden weight from the adjacent island, with provisions sufficient to sustain life until the following day, when Mr. Robinson effected his deliverance.

Near the foot of these Islands, on Monday morning July 18, 1852, a fisherman named Dan Johnson, was discovered sitting in a sail-boat, fast on a rock, a few rods below the three Islands, between Goat Island and the Canada Shore, some 80 rods above the falls, and opposite the centre of Goat Island and about 40 yards from land. It appears he had left Grand Island the evening previous for the falls, but being intoxicated, he was unable to manage his boat, and was hurried down the Rapids, and

most fortunately for himself, lodged against a rock in the stream. Notwithstanding his dangerous situation, Mr. Joel Robinson, went to his relief, in a light skiff, and succeeded in returning safely with Johnson. In a moment after the man left the sailboat, it started off, and was carried down the stream. A purse of considerable amount was made up by the Visitors and Citizens and presented to Mr. Robinson for his daring intrepidity in saving the life of a fellow being.

Near the foot of these Islands you will observe at your left a road leading back to the bridge, it is your nearest route to return. If you are not pressed for time you can pass onward to the head of the island.

Near the head of the Three Sister Islands, you will observe a cascade which was the favorite bathing place of Francis Abbott, the Hermit of the Falls.

The first of these is called Moss island, from the fact that it is covered with a heavy bed of moss.

NAVY ISLAND.

People are pleased with the ramble to the head of the island. At this point you will have a view of the whole river above the Falls, and the smooth surface of the water in front. But turning your eye to the right or left, you see the rapids in all their majesty. The first island you see to the right, near the Canada shore, is Navy Island. It belongs to Canada, and contains 304 acres. This island was occupied by the "Patriots" in the winter of 1837-8. Their object was to receive recruits to revolutionize Canada.

GRAND ISLAND.

The land on the left is a part of Grand Island, 12 miles long, from 3 to 7 wide, and containing 17,384 acres. At the left of Grand Island is Buckhorn island; at this point it has the appearance of being a part of the same island, as the channel that separates them cannot be seen. These last mentioned islands belong to the State of New York.

FORT SCHLOSSER.

On the American shore at the left, you will observe a rude massive chimney, quite too large for the small white building around it. This chimney is the last remnant of old Fort Schlosser, built by the French. It is about a mile distant from the head of the Island.

Schlosser Landing is two miles distant, and is noted as the scene of the Caroline affair. This ill-fated steamboat while lying moored at the wharf on the night of the 29th December, 1837, was surprised by a party of volunteers from Canada, cut out, towed into the stream and set on fire.

RESIDENCE OF THE HERMIT.

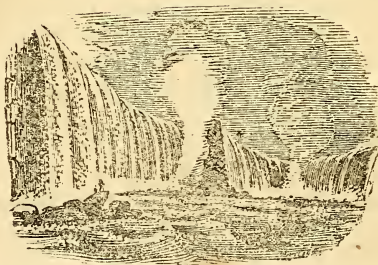
Pass around the head of the island to the American channel, until you arrive at a log house fronting the rapids. This was the residence of Francis Abbott for about a year in 1829.

RETURNING.

Now we will recross the Bridge to Bath island.—The white building to the left is a Paper Mill belonging to B. Bradley & Co. The two small islands above Bath Island are called Brig and Ship Island,

from their peculiar shape; there is a bridge which connects Bath Island with Ship Island; the entrance to this Bridge is at the west end of the toll house.—The first small island in the rapids below the bridge nearest the main shore, is called Chapin's Island, from the circumstances of a Mr. Chapin, of this village, having made his escape from the rapids to the island—who was thrown from a scaffold while shingling the bridge, and was rescued by Mr. Robinson on the 25th of July, 1839. The other islands adjacent are variously named; but as there is nothing of importance attached to them, names will be of no interest.

Having returned from Goat Island to the main shore, we will now take the path to the left from the bridge, by the side of the rapids to the Ferry; a distance of about eighty rods.



THE FERRY.

At and near the Ferry you will have various and magnificent views of the American Falls, which the obliging Ferrymen will point out to your best advantage.

THE INDIAN LADDER.

About one hundred rods below the Falls is the oldest place for descending to the River, it is called the Indian Ladder. The Ladder consisted of a cedar tree, lying sloping against the rocks. The natural branches, and notches cut in the body of the tree, were the only slight helps afforded to those who went down. The last person known to have descended, was a hunter by the name of Brooks. He was in pursuit of some game which he had shot that had fallen below. He got about half way down, when he slipped and fell between twenty and thirty feet, and was badly injured.

CATLIN'S CAVE.

This cave is situated about three fourths of a mile below the ferry landing, on the American side. It was discovered in 1825, by Mr. Catlin, of Lockport, and bears his name. The cave is formed by the constant dripping of lime water upon the mass that hangs in large quantities upon the rocks, and forms it into calcareous Tufa. The diameter of the cave is from six to eight feet, of a circular form, having in its bottom a chrystal fountain of pure water. The entrance is a circular opening, that will admit the body of a medium sized man. When first discovered, the entrance was nearly enclosed, but was enlarged by Mr. Catlin; who upon first entering, found some beautiful stalactites, and brought them as trophies of his new discovery.

GIANTS CAVE.

A few rods below this cave is another, which has sometimes been called the GIANT'S CAVE. This cave is elevated from ten to fifteen feet above the base of

the perpendicular rock, and its entrance is guarded by the constant dripping of water; its appearance is more like a fire-place than an enclosure; the back and sides are completely lined with stalactatite formations. If you should wish to enter this cave, you can do so by climbing some poles that have been lodged in its entrance for that purpose, by getting drenched in passing the threshold; here are to be found some beautiful specimens of moss in all stages of petrification. The best route to these caves is to get the ferryman to row you in his boat down the river and land opposite the caves, and ascend the bank. This mode of getting there you will find both safe and expeditious. You can approach them, by rambling along under the perpendicular precipice over fallen trees, under dripping water; and after a journey of some two hours, reach the cave; but not without some hazard from falling rocks; while the passage by boats is perfectly easy and safe.

NIAGARA FALLS RAILWAY AND FERRY.

When the Ferry was first established at this place the traveller was compelled to descend a perpendicular bank of 90 feet on a ladder. Now there is a railway down the bank from the top of the hill to the water's edge, laid on substantial masonry—beside the railway is also a direct flight of 290 steps, both are roofed over, protecting them from the dripping water, or any thing falling from above. At the head of the railway is placed a wheel of eight feet diameter turning in a horizontal position, around which runs a rope $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and 300 feet in length, attached to a Car at each end, and supported by pullies, placed at intervals down the grade.

Good care has been taken to have excess of strength in every part of the machinery. It requires about two minutes to make the transit from the top of the bank to the boat landing.

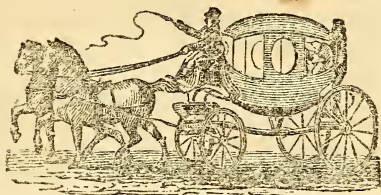
THE FERRY AT THE FALLS.

Perhaps there is not a sheet of water on the globe where at first sight the stranger would be less liable to hazard the attempt at crossing, than at this ferry. Notwithstanding the impression thus made, the fact once known that these violent waters have been ferried for the last thirty years—and during that period many thousand persons have passed on their agitated surface without the occurrence of accidents—while the ferries at Black Rock, Lewiston, Youngstown, and Fort Niagara, each have had their victims, all fears must be dissipated.

CHURCHES AT NIAGARA FALLS VILLAGE.

Until of late Churches have been wanting at the Falls, and many visitors have been in the habit of returning to Buffalo, or of spending Sunday at some other place. This is no longer necessary. There is now a Presbyterian Church, a Roman Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, and a Protestant Episcopal. In St. Peter's, P. E. Church, one half of the seats are reserved for strangers, and they are made welcome in all the others.

THE DRIVE.



Having now conducted you to all the places of interest in the immediate neighborhood of the Falls on the American side, we will take a ride to other places alike interesting on the same side.

The Wire Suspension Bridge and Bellevue Mineral Spring, the Whirlpool, Devil's Hole, Mount Eagle and Chasm Tower.

To most of these places carriages run regularly, or conveyances can at all times be obtained.

There are but few visitants who do not avail themselves of the pleasure of a jaunt to these points, and as they will necessarily demand from us some notice we will speak concisely of each.

VILLAGE OF BELLEVUE.

It is named from the very fine distant view which is presented of the Falls and river, and which has been greatly admired by visitors. A large Hotel has been recently erected at Bellevue, adding much to the attractions of the place, and affording what has been long needed, a pleasant stopping place, for strangers and others visiting the Bridge. The House is a new brick three story building situated within a few rods of the Bridge, and at the entrance to the road leading to the steamer *Maid of the Mist*, it is

beautifully furnished, has a large pleasant dining room and a parlor on the first floor, from which you look out upon one of the most magnificent views in the world—Niagara Falls in the distance.

A lovelier prospect God never made, through a long, narrow, winding gorge, whose banks are clothed in dark rich green, with bold points here and there jutting out, whose profile shows them covered with magnificent trees, rising one above the other, diminutive in appearance but lofty in reality. Far away stretches the blue waters of Niagara, reflecting in its placid bosom the lofty forest crowned heights which adorn its sides, till suddenly the view is stopped by a white wall of foaming water over which hangs floating like a snow cloud, a wreath of mist which hovers round it like a crown of glory. We cannot do justice to it so we stop. From the dining room we ascend to the next story, where through a spacious hall you can step on to a balcony on each side of the house and obtain a fine view of the River and Bridge.

Upon the top of the house is an observatory from which is obtained such a view as would make an artists' eye water.—the Falls.—the River—the Bridge—Rapids and Whirlpool.—more than can be seen from any one point on Niagara River.

Fearful in majesty and glory thou!—
Mute we stand and gaze upon thy flood,
As erst the red man gazed, ere yet the foot
Of our pale fathers trod these solitudes.
Still rings far up to heaven thy mighty hymn,
Which rose to hail the first glad morn of earth,
Nor will it cease till time shall be no more

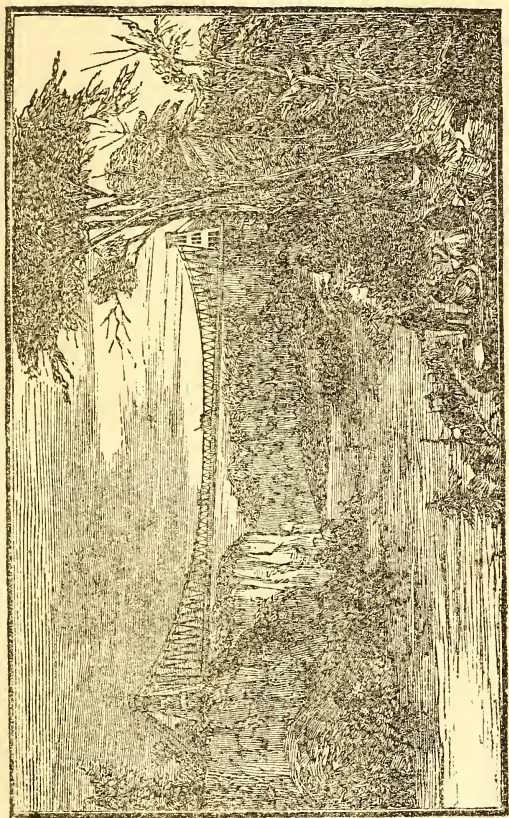

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SUSPENSION BRIDGE.

If the eastern story-teller who charmed away the thousand nights, with her enchanting tales, had told her eager listeners that in a far off land, which the sun began to illumine when midnight had settled upon them, there was a river containing many times the volume of the Euphrates, supplied by inland seas larger in surface than their own happy land, and far more extensive in the aggregate than the Persian Gulf; whose waters combining the transparency of the crystal with the hue of the emerald, flowed on through a fertile and teeming land, until it plunged perpendicularly down a precipice of rock two hundred feet high into a chasm two hundred feet in depth, and then wound its way for hundreds of miles between two great countries into the Atlantic ocean; that over this frightful chasm, within view of this mighty cataract, men like themselves had conceived and executed the project of throwing a fairy-like structure composed of metallic cords, over 1000 feet in length, drawn from the bowels of the earth, refined, attenuated, twisted and suspended in the air, from shore to shore, forming a highway over which men and carriages pass secure and safely. Probably the listeners would not have dreamed that the time would come when the romance of imagination would become the truth of history.

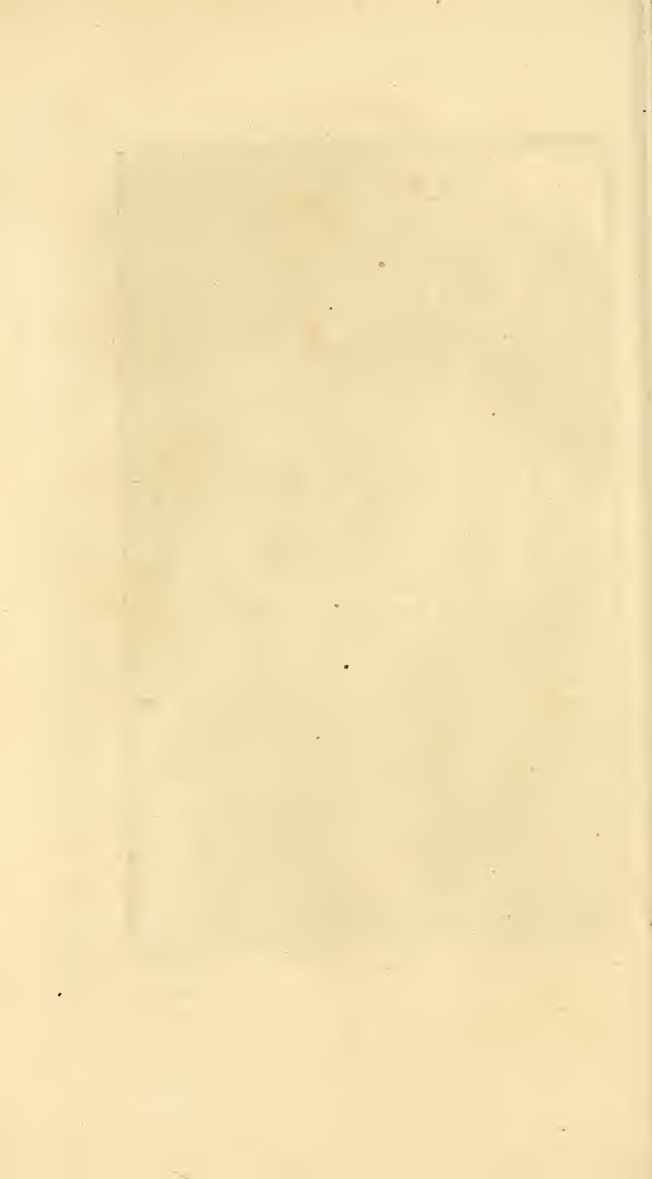
The work has been done, and thousands have already crossed and recrossed.

The frame columns of this bridge are 65 feet high; the wire cables 1000 feet in length; and the length of the foot way of the bridge, from bank to bank, 800 feet.



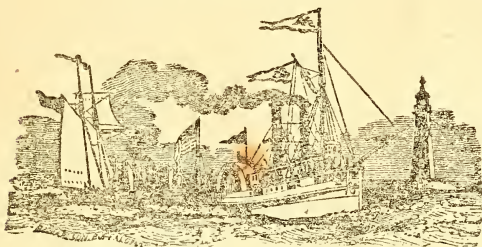








## STEAMBOAT LANDING.



The road descends the high bank at Bellevue at the rate of nearly one foot in ten, and to the wharf it is about half a mile. There lies the trim little craft, the *Maid of the Mist*, from the deck of which when she cuts her way through the gulf of rock bound shores more than 200 feet high on either side you will have a view of nature in all her grandeur, until you approach the Horse Shoe Falls. Directly before you is the great wonder of nature; and not more than a hundred yards distant like a mighty avalanche comes rushing the foaming flood, with a velocity and power, that has caused many a cheek to blanch, and bold hearts to shrink. Yet you catch the rainbow of promise, and amidst the boiling, roaring, rushing waters the gallant steamer bears you safely on, and in a few moments rounds to, at her landing place on the Canada side.

This trip affords the "ne plus ultra" view of the Falls.

## MINERAL SPRING,

The Bellevue Mineral Spring differs in some minute particulars from the Harrow Gate Springs of England, the White Sulphur of Virginia, and the



Avon Springs of New York; all of which vary in slight respects from each other; yet they all have a common taste and appearance, and their medicinal affinities and remedial powers are of equal efficiency.

These waters have been used to great advantage in many diseases, among which the following are enumerated:

Salt Rheum, Blotches, Ring Worms, Pimples, Freckles, and for all eruptions and diseases of the skin. Chronic Rheumatism in all its stages; Scrofula, Old Sores, Stiffness, weakness, and contraction of the joints and limbs from disease, or from wounds and bruises.

For the purposes of the Bath no water surpasses this in its medical qualities, it is destructive to the small animalculae, that pervade and bury themselves in the cavities and pores of the surface, the cause of pimples, itching and irritation, and the fruitful germ of the most corruptive diseases. These it eradicates, leaving the skin smooth, glossy, and giving an unwonted animation both to body and mind.

The luxurious sensations afforded by the Sulphur Bath is to some persons so soothing, so sedative, that it becomes to them one of the greatest indulgencies of their lives.

#### SUSPENSION BRIDGE MILL.

This mill, occupying the place it does, makes it a curiosity. It is propelled by water below the machinery, and is driven by shafts coupled together, the whole length of which is 270 feet.

#### WHIRLPOOL.

It is a curious and interesting phenomena, and a visit to the Whirlpool should never be omitted. The



river here makes an abrupt bend, and the force of the water has worn out a very large basin in which the water constantly revolves; and in which logs, timbers, and other wrecks which are precipitated over the Falls, and dead bodies are also often drawn into this place, and continue to move round with the timber and wrecks together.

#### DEVIL'S HOLE.

This gulf is about half a mile below the Whirlpool. There is a saw-mill standing at the edge of the rock which is carried by the water of a brook called Bloody Run. It has its name from the battle that took place there between the Indians and British.

#### CHASM TOWER AT MOUNT EAGLE.

This Tower, erected in the summer of 1849, for the sole purpose of extending the view over one of the most interesting prospects in the world, is built upon a knole of land, called "*Mount Eagle*." It stands close to the perpendicular bank of the Niagara river, 100 rods north the Devils' Hole. The top of the Tower to which the spectator ascends by flights of easy and convenient stairs, is about 400 feet from the waters edge.

There is no view so complete of the gorge of the Niagara river, and the scenery around as this; and being in the very centre of many great events, it is the best point of any other to call to mind the battle grounds of this country, and to describe other interesting localities, as this site affords a just conception of their relative positions, whether hid from view or seen by the eye. Instead of dispersing through our small publication in separate articles, the subjects here noticed, we will, as we behold the varied pros-



pect from Chasm Tower, with our descriptions, mingle some interesting reminiscences of the past.

1st. At the north the eye passes across Lake Ontario, 40 miles, and by the help of the Telescope in clear weather the City of Toronto can be observed. In April, 1813, might have been seen the fleet under Commodore Chauncey, conveying the army of Gen. Dearborn to York, now Toronto, and the explosion of the guns at the attack, might have been heard and seen.

2nd. The eye sweeps along the distant shore of the lake easterly till the land is lost sight of, and the dark expanse of waters appear as boundless as the ocean.

3rd. To the west the view extends to Burlington Bay and the head of the lake.

4th. Four miles east of Fort Niagara is the Four Mile Creek. At the mouth of this creek the British regulars and Provincial auxiliaries landed and entrenched themselves in 1759, in their advance upon Fort Niagara, then in possession of the French.—At this creek also, Col. Chrystie landed with his regiment in 39 batteaux, in October, 1812, a few days before the battle of Queenston. The Colonel was taken prisoner in that battle, and his regiment that were not killed, were also made prisoners. And here may be mentioned a most singular want of management in providing boats for the conveyance of our troops from the American shore to Canada on that occasion. A large number of batteaux had been built at the Falls for this expedition, yet 13 boats were only ready. The forces were ferried over in these, but as day dawned, and the enemy were enabled to direct his fire, many of them were soon disabled, and before the battle was over the whole were



wrecked, destroyed or lost. The 39 boats of Chrystie's corps at the Four mile creek, only 11 miles distant lay unused; and those built at the Falls were noticed a few days after, strung along the road at different places to to the very brow of the mountain. No doubt the disaster which happened at Queenston was helped on by the want of means of transportation.

5th. The ruins of Fort George, distant 8 miles, are now but just discernable, so completely are the works dilapidated, yet at the commencement of the war, the Fort was the strongest and most complete fortification of any this side of Quebec.

6th. The village of Newark, now known by the name of Niagara, is seen between Fort George and the lake. The battle of the 27th of May, 1813, took place near the Lake shore, a mile west of the village, and was for our arms a most brilliant affair. For three days previous an incessant fire of red hot shot had been kept up from Fort Niagara, the salt battery at Youngstown, and the other batteries, on this side, upon Fort George and the British works; and nearly every building occupied by their troops was rendered untenable, or was burnt down. At sun rise on that day the American fleet was anchored out in the Lake, and two hundred boats under cover of the fire of the fleet, proceeded towards the shore; at the same time a terrific cannonade was kept up from the American side. This scene, with the glorious sun just rising, clear and effulgent, is described by those who beheld it, as being inexpressibly grand and absorbing the very soul with the intensity of the emotions which it excited. The troops landed, rushed up the bank, and their impetuosity soon drove the enemy from the field.

7th. A mile from the Fort on the American side



is Youngstown, where was a large, effective battery, called the "Salt Battery;" having been at first made with about 500 barrels of salt, covered over with earth. It mounted two 18 pounders.

8th. Three miles this side of Fort Niagara is one of the old battle grounds of the French and English in which, in 1759, the English gained a most decisive victory over a body of about 1500 men, who were on their way from the western posts of the French to reinforce the Fort.

9th. The Five Mile Meadow, a mile farther up the river. At this place, after the American victory obtained at Fort George, the Dragoons belonging to the army crossed in scows, but the enemy was not pursued. They made good their retreat, with their arms and some of their artillery and stores.

10th. Part of Lewiston is seen, but Queenston lies under the brows of the hill, and is hid from sight; but where the steam ferry boat now crosses the river the troops were ferried over to the battle of the 13th of October, 1812. The conflict commenced between one and two o'clock at night, and continued till four o'clock in the afternoon. Gen. Solomon Van Rensselaer was wounded and disabled from advancing at an early part of the engagement. He seated himself about half way up the high bank of the river, on an extreme point to be seen from this place and called over with a loud voice for his comrades in arms to advance to the battle.

Just above where the ferry boat now crosses is the Lewiston Suspension Bridge.

11th. In full view raises up Brock's Monument, broken and shattered, from the heights of Queenston. The General and his Aid, McDonald, rest beneath its foundation. Brock met his fate about fifty rods



below the monument, near a cherry tree on the side of the hill in the rear of Queenston. Below the mountain and beyond Queenston, on a point of land above the river, is the remains of Froman's battery; it did great execution on the day of the battle, and at the close of the tragic result, when many vainly attempted to swim the river.

12th. On the Lewiston heights was a heavy battery called Fort Grey, in sight, a mile and a half from the Tower—it was named after Col. Grey of the army under whose direction it was built. A constant but not very effective fire was kept up from it during the battle of Queenston.

13th. From the commanding site of the Tower, Niagara river is viewed for 11 miles, commencing at the Whirlpool, and running torrent-like through its deep chasm to the termination of the mountain ridge; thence to Lake Ontario the current is strong and unless agitated by the wind, is smooth and clear. Just as it connects with the lake, the small point of land on which old Fort Niagara stands, and where the American Flag is still seen to wave, jets from the east and intercepts the eye from the river as it enters the lake. Of the many great and astounding events that have taken place at this old fort they cannot be enumerated in this short detail of localities.

• 14th. At the base of the tower passes the old Portage road, the oldest road in the country, and first travelled and formed by the French. It is now converted into a plank road to run from Lewiston landing to the Falls. The location of the respective terminations are in view.



## INDIAN VILLAGE.



15th. Three miles from the Tower is the Tuscarora Indian village, the intervening wood prevents it being seen. These Indians are partly christianized: they have considerable taste for music with good voices; and their women employ much of their time in the manufacture and sale of bead work.

16th. On the fourth farm north from the Tower, on the Portage road, lived a man by the name of March. In the war his family had escaped, and he was preparing to leave, and was harnessing his horses, when a party of British Indians rushed upon him and slew him. Some American stragglers about two weeks after, venturing back and wandering over the desolation which had been made, found the hogs subsisting on the remains of their owner, which they gathered up and interred.

17. Within a stone's throw the road formerly passed down a ravine towards the bank of the river. Here in 1759 took place a celebrated and bloody encounter, called the battle of the Devil's Hole, between a body of Seneca Indians, who had formed an ambush in the surrounding woods, and 100 British,



escorting cattle and provisions. The whole number of the British, excepting four, were killed, or cast down the bank to perish. The bones of the slaughtered are yet found on the rocks below, two skulls were picked up in 1849, ninety years after the engagement.

18. The farms around the Tower, a fair sample of this country, have a fine and garden like appearance, and are not surpassed by any in rural worth and beauty. The waving fields of grain, the velvet like pastures, the towering and unsubdued parts of forests of centuries which still on some sides close in the scene, give interest to the beholder; and the comfortable mansions of the inhabitants embowered in fruit and shade trees, evidence to the mind that if there is comfort in this world, it is to be found in such retreats as these.

19. Opposite on the Canada side lies the township of Stamford, a fine tract of country, thickly populated and in a high state of cultivation. The village two miles to the west is hid by the woods. Eight miles still to the west is the Beach woods or Beaver dams; there Lieut. Col. Boestler, in 1813, with between five and six hundred men unfortunately allowed himself to be surprised and surrounded by the enemy. What were not killed of the whole body were made prisoners. Thirty miles still west to Stoney Creek, another spot long to be remembered among the unfortunate affairs in which we suffered during the progress of that war. The enemy succeeded in capturing two Generals, a portion of the troops and of driving back the Americans with a heavy loss. This disaster, after which followed Boestler's just mentioned, totally eclipsed the brilliant prospects with which the campaign had opened. From that time our



arms were put upon the defensive; next followed retreat from the shores of Canada; then the invasion of the American side, the loss of Fort Niagara; and the devastation and depopulation of fifty miles of this frontier.

20. Those three objects at the south west which are seen to spire above the woods are observations built upon the ground of the bloody battle of Lundy's Lane. It took place on the 25th of July 1814.—The action lasted from 5 o'clock in the afternoon until 12 o'clock at midnight, when both armies retired from the field. Americans were under the command of General's Brown, Scott and Ripley; the two first were wounded and were obliged to retire before the close of the action. Gen. Drummond, who commanded the British, returned to Forts George and Niagara, and the Americans returned back to camp at Bridgewater, one mile above the Falls.—The reported loss on both sides differed only 27.—The Americans having that number less. Both parties claimed the victory.

21. Casting the eye to the south is seen the spires of the churches and cupaloes of the hotels of the village of the Falls. The rapids just above the sheet of water are seen waiving and sparkling through the wooded beach of the river, and the spray rising gently over the great Cataract. Two miles beyond the Falls and hid by the woods of Goat Island is the battle field of Chippewa. This battle took place on the 5th of July, 1814. General Brown commanded and under him were General's Scott and Porter, who eminently distinguished themselves in that engagement, drove the enemy from all his positions, and obliged him to retreat.

Twenty miles beyond is Fort Erie on the British



side, and Black Rock and Buffalo on the American, all these places are memorable as scenes of warlike action—of assault, bastions blown up, reciprocal invasions, day and night attacks, sortise, rapine and destruction.

Within this classic circle over which the eye and memory range, has been witnessed bloodshed, pillage, devastation, and conflagration upon conflagration, spreading one wide scene of ruin, and human suffering unknown to any country in modern times. These appalling scenes of the last war began in the burning of Newark, in Canada, in December, 1814. This was done by the Americans under General McClure. They had also sometime before burnt the village and mills at Bridgewater two miles above the Falls. Fort Niagara was taken by Col. Murray on the 19th of the same month. And then Youngstown, Lewiston, the Tuscarora Indian village, Manchester, Schlosser, Black Rock, Buffalo, and the intermediate farm-houses, were burnt as they fell into the enemy's hands; and of the inhabitants, those who did not fly, were not spared. In July the next year after, the Americans burnt the pleasant little village of St. Davids, two miles west from Queenstown.

Here has been fought the greatest number of battles of any spot in America, and more human life has been lost.

The victims of war within this circle of forty miles, of French, English, Indians and Americans, inclusive of epidemics, and diseases, incident to war cannot be estimated at less than 80,000.

Such has been the awful deeds, the heart rendering scenes that have been witnessed here, but all is changed. The contrast is great. Phoenix-like towns and cities have again arisen, the busy hand of



improvement has already accomplished much, yet her work is just begun. Suspension bridges, railroads, the Erie canal on one side, its deep rock cutting, and on the other the Welland ship canal connecting Erie with Ontario. Within the same circle are the cities of Buffalo, Toronto and Hamilton, and there soon will be the cities of St. Catharines, and Lockport, and villages too numerous to mention.—The world may be challenged to show greater works or more noble enterprises than is presented within these limits.

With the great Falls of Niagara, the extraordinary capacity of this portion of country, and its great adaptation to the enterprize of man, no limit can be set, and no true conception can be formed of its future greatness. If so much has been done in the infancy of the country, what may not be anticipated with its unrivaled advantages, of its maturity.

#### CANADA SIDE.

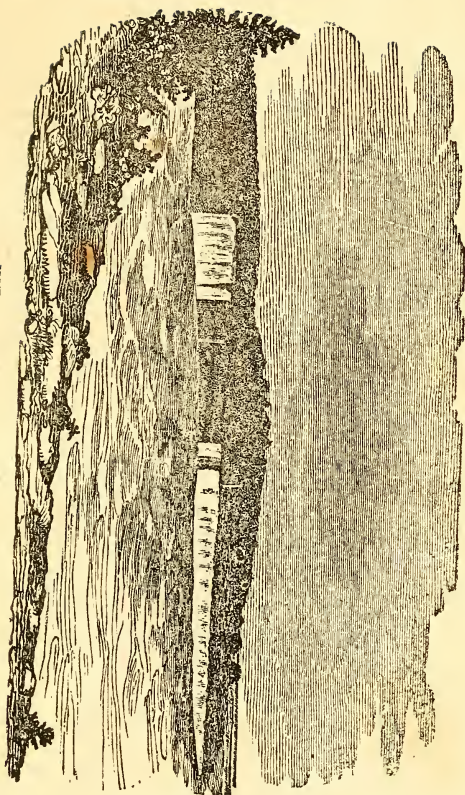
Though we have incidentally referred to many things belonging to this side, and which will not need repeating, yet we shall be happy to accompany the inquiring tourist still further, and furnish him with a full epitome of the various objects of attraction to be found in this locality.

#### LOCAL DISTANCES.

|                                                    |           |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| From the water's edge, to the Clifton House, ----- | 160 rods  |
| From the Clifton House to Table Rock, -----        | 220 "     |
| From Table Rock to Lundy's Lane battle ground, --- | 1½ miles. |
| To the Burning Spring, -----                       | 2½ "      |
| To Chippewa, -----                                 | 3 "       |
| To the Whirlpool, -----                            | 4 miles.  |
| To Brock's Monument, -----                         | 7 "       |
| Number of Spiral Steps near table Rock, -----      | 87        |



VIEW FROM TABLE ROCK.







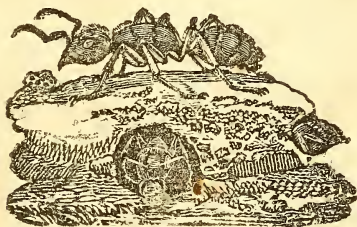


Should we take our course from the Ferry, there is a carriage road which passes up the bank. Hacks are always to be obtained, and you can either walk or ride. The Clifton House stands at the top of the bank, and should you feel disposed to call you will find yourself pleased with your reception and entertainment.

You will now proceed up the stream, and just this side of the Museum, Miss Martha Rugg, in company with another lady and a gentleman, on the 24th of August, 1844, passed along the bank. A flower or branch attracted her attention; she stepped aside to pick it; her foot slipped on the edge of the precipice and she fell on the rocks below. When reached she breathed, but soon expired.

A little further up, is

#### BARNETT'S MUSEUM.



Of natural and artificial curiosities; a place deserving patronage. The Museum is admirably arranged, and represents a forest scene, containing upwards of ten thousand specimens. There are bipeds and quadrupeds; birds, fishes, insects, reptiles, shells, minerals, and Indian curiosities. A collection of living snakes may also be seen. Five Buffaloes, and an endless



variety of Birds. Attached to the Museum is a Camera Obscura, Green House and Garden. One of the best views of the Falls is obtained from the piazzas of this Museum. Mr. Barnett keeps a good house of refreshment, and an assortment of Indian work for sale, and is polite and attentive to visitors.

Near the Museum is a spiral stair-case, constructed for the purpose of enabling visitors to descend and pass behind the sheet of water. Dresses for the purposes are furnished by Mr. Barnett.

#### PROSPECT HOUSE.

A few rods from the Museum, is the establishment of Mr. S. Davis; ever aiming to gratify the public, he has erected a Camera Obscura and Observatory upon his grounds to aid visitors in looking over the river and falls at this point. Mr. D. furnishes guides and dresses to those wishing to pass under the sheet of water.

#### TABLE ROCK.

Proceed a short distance further, to a building near the Horse Shoe Fall, and you are on Table Rock.

A mass of Table Rock, 160 feet in length and from 30 to 40 feet in width, fell off in July, 1818, with a tremendous crash. On the 9th of December 1828, three immense portions broke from the horse shoe fall, causing a shock like an earthquake. Another large portion fell in the summer of 1829, and the noise it occasioned was heard several miles; and still another in 1850. Yet judging from the published accounts of the falls, which reach back nearly two hundred years, there has been but very little recession of the falls within that period. Some years



since the person who kept the winding stairs at Table Rock, said, that on a certain day, he should put a number of kegs of powder in the fissure of the rock and blow it off. It would have made a tremendous crash, but the gentleman who owned the principal interest in the privilege, would not allow it to be done, as it would put an end to the charm of the place—the visit under the sheet of water.

From the top of Table Rock House, you have one broad and imposing view of the whole falls, and much of the scenery of the rapids and islands.

If you are disposed to descend, you will proceed to the spiral stair-case; and if you wish to pass 153 feet behind the falling sheet, you can do so, the proprietor will furnish you with a dress and a guide. If not, you can descend the steps, take the path to the right, and go to the edge of the falling sheet. Above you hangs Table Rock—a fit place to think of the sword of Democles.

It was upon Table Rock that these beautiful lines of Mrs. SIGOURNEY were written:

Flow on, forever, in thy glorious robe  
Of terror and of beauty. God hath set  
His rainbow on thy forehead, and the cloud  
Mantles around thy feet; and he doth give  
Thy voice of thunder power to speak of Him  
Eternally—bidding the lip of man  
Keep silence, and upon thy rocky altar pour  
Incense of sweet praise.

When satisfied with the scene above, below and around you, retrace your steps, and if you think proper to avail yourself of every advantageous point of view, ascend to the promenade on the top of the Clifton House, where you can revel in thoughts of this exhibition of nature's sublimity and power.



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BURNING SPRING.

One mile up the river. The water is in constant ebulation; from it issues a stream of hydrogen gas, which quickly ignites by the touch of a burning match.

## LUNDY'S LANE BATTLE GROUND.

Two Observatories, before alluded to, designate this ground. These observations invite the patronage of the stranger, they were built for his accommodation, and the prospects which they afford are pleasing and extensive.

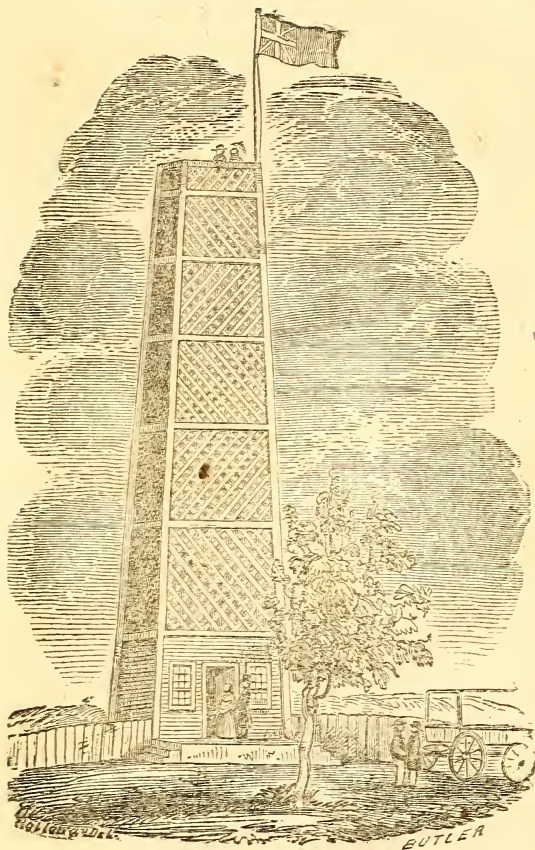
For carriages to these places, or any others which the traveller is disposed to visit on this side, he will find it to his advantage to apply to the Clifton House at the Falls, or the Elgin House at the Suspension Bridge in Canada. Drivers, acting as guides, relating all the incidents connected with the different points, will make your ride more agreeable and interesting.

Having decided to return, we pass down, viewing that beautiful prospect of the Falls and river from Victoria point, and note the varied scenery of the rock-bound shores.

## BENDER'S CAVE,

Is one mile from the Clifton House. Near the top of the bank you descend a ladder ten feet, and take a path which leads you into the Cave. Returning to the upper bank, you will find enough to attract your attention until you arrive at the Suspension Bridge. If you do not please to stop at the Elgin Hotel, you can at your leisure pass the bridge, and when over you will find carriages in waiting to convey you to the Falls.





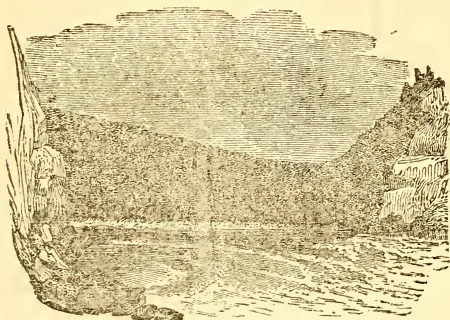
OBSERVATORY—LUNDY'S LANE.







## THE WHIRLPOOL.



View of the Whirlpool.

The Whirlpool is three quarters of a mile, by the bank of the river, north of the Village of Bellevue; but by the road and gate, by which travellers always resort to it, it is a quarter of a mile farther.

It is impossible to give anything like a description of this place that will convey an adequate idea of the terrific sublimity by which it is distinguished. As a great natural curiosity it is second only to the Falls—different, indeed, in every respect, but which no one desirous of being acquainted with the Niagara Strait, will omit visiting and beholding for himself.

Though it is much beneath the dignity of these scenes to compare their greatness with what is trifling, yet for once may the presumption be allowed.—The Niagara River is like a juggler or a mountebank: it attracts large and enthusiastic audiences, who come full of expectation and depart highly gratified.

The bill of its exhibition is a rhapsody of paradoxes:

It comes, passes, and goes, yet is always before you.  
It is always swelling, yet it enlarges not, nor bursts.



---

It is always boiling, yet its waters are ever cold.—  
So with its anger—very firm but always cool.

Though without mental excitement, it is much moved and greatly agitated.

Without feet, it dances; and without an instrument it keeps time to its own music.

It aspires not, and yet its breath arises in waving clouds, and wets with dew the surrounding trees.

It weeps without eyes, and moans without passion or feeling.

It cradles and rocks without babies or children.

Its curtain or sheet is neither spun nor wove.

It has no cohesion, it is sustained neither by bands or cords, yet there it hangs, still passing away, and still ever hanging there.

In its tremendous leaps it exceeds Sam Patch, yet its greatest leap is a mighty fall.

After falling, it rolls without wheels, runs without feet, springs without joints, contends without arms, till at the whirlpool, raging, it suddenly turns round and swallows itself. Again from its own bowels disgorged, away it drives, sweeping and roaring, to find repose in the bosom of Ontario.

All this is lightly but not idly said. At the Whirlpool, the current comes rushing from above, strikes the Canada shore, whirls to the left, swells up beyond, and passes away. Whatever goes over the Falls, or moves down the river, first passes into the whirlpool, where it remains for days and weeks, driving and whirling around.

On the 4th day of July, 1843, a small vessel, or what had the appearance of one, with steamers and colors flying, was launched in the eddy, on the American side of the whirlpool. It moved slowly up the stream, making at the same time its way to—



wards the middle, until it reached the current; it then passed rapidly towards the Canada shore; nearing that, it returned up the stream, floated round for some eighty rods, and then entered the whirlpool. That in an extremely rapid river, an object is carried from one side to the other, and not down the stream as is usual, marks the very singular action of the water at this place. This experiment can only be made from the American side; and for the gratification of visitors, it is probable that it will be occasionally repeated.

In the summer season, omnibuses and other carriages run regularly during the day, and at all times when required, from the village of the Falls to Bellevue and to the Whirlpool.

All persons who go upon the grounds at the Whirlpool, are required to pay their fording—25 cents; the charge is not made again on the same person, if his visit should be repeated a thousand times. This is to pay for making and keeping in repair the road down the bank, the carriage road, and for personal supervision, which is here indispensably necessary.

### MANITOU ROCK.

The Manitou Rock, or as it has sometimes been called, the Pinnacle Rock, lies upon the shore of the Niagara river, about fifty rods above the commencement of the great Whirlpool, upon the very verge of the rushing rapids, and immediately at the base of the high cliff which forms the lateral boundary of the maddest waters.

The rock, at some very distant period, seems to have been thrown from the cliff above, and in its descent had fallen upon the point of another rock. It is nearly an inverted cone, with its apex resting



upon the rock below. It measures nearly a hundred feet from the highest point to the water which washes its smooth side. The top of this rock is level, and is covered with a beautiful carpet of dark green moss and shaded by a flourishing growth of evergreen.—The ascent to it is attended with some fatigue, on account of the masses of broken rocks that have tumbled out of the bank above; and at one or two places the visitor has to watch the retiring of the swelling flood, and pass quickly over them before it returns.

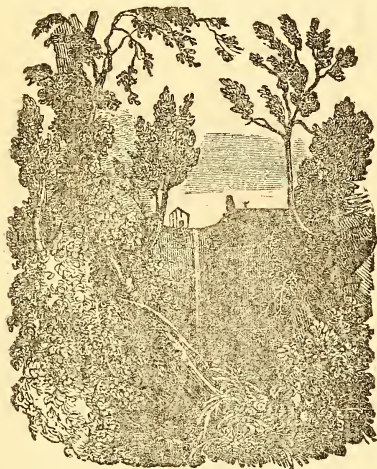
Those, however, who have visited the place, return well satisfied, and express themselves amply repaid for all their toil in climbing to it; for the view that here presents itself, is, in the opinion of some travellers, altogether superior to any other in the vicinity. Even the great cataract, with some loses its grandeur, when compared with the pent up, waters, as they here rush through the narrow gorge, and in their maddened fury dash their white foam to the skies, and shrink and swell like the mighty writhing of some giant monster, in the embrace of the rent mountains.

The towering cliffs on either hand shut out the distant prospect, and the vision can take in nothing but

“ Sky and rocks and rushing river.”

Below the eye rests upon the mighty whirlpool, where the waters, just escaped from the rocky pass, rush and heave and swell, and with the roar of a thousand thunders, circle round and round, and rebound from bank to bank, forming innumerable deep vortices, where every floating object that has escaped destruction above, is instantly sucked down and disappears.





## DEVIL'S HOLE.

Three and a half miles from the Falls the road runs within a few feet of the river's bank, where a deep and gloomy chasm is rent or worn out of the rock. This is called the Devil's Hole, and the small stream which crosses the road and falls in the chasm is the Bloody run.

Alight from your carriage, proceed to the bank in the rear of the saw mill standing on the verge of the precipice, and you have the Devil's Hole before you, and a splendid view of the rapids. After sufficient examination at this point, you again take a seat in your carriage, and proceed one quarter of a mile further, and you arrive at the Little Devil's Hole: there has lately been discovered at this place a very strong mineral spring, impregnated with sulphur: the water of which has not as yet been analyzed.



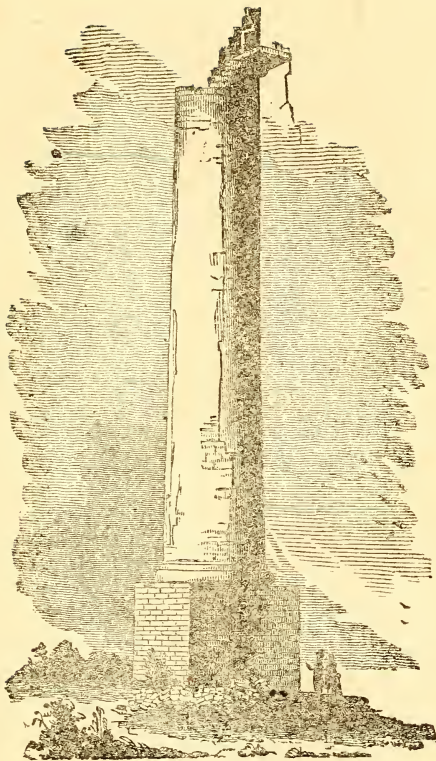
## BROCK'S MONUMENT.

This is an edifice built of freestone, 126 feet in height; standing on Queenston heights,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of the Falls, opposite the village of Lewiston.

This monument was erected on the spot where the memorable battle of Queenston was fought, on the 13th day of October, 1812, in which the British General Brock and his aid de camp McDonald fell; whose remains were deposited beneath this towering edifice. This monument was erected by the Legislature of Upper Canada, at the expense of about \$15,000 in honor of their hero, who there fell in battle. On the night of the 17th of April, 1840, this magnificent structure was blown up with gunpowder by some unknown miscreants, and is now in complete ruins; the shaft is split from top to bottom; the dome has fallen, with most of the balustrade; the table stone split through the centre; the keystone is thrown entirely out; the spiral steps lie at the bottom of the hollow shaft, a heap of ruins; the powder was supposed to have been poured into the interior of the monument through an opening which was left in the wall to admit light, the lowest opening being some fifteen feet from the base; the powder was poured through this opening upon the steps within, and a match inserted and fired from the ground, which would give the perpetrator a chance to escape before the explosion; the door at the top of the monument happened to be open which accounts for its not being levelled from the foundation.

The perpetrator of this deed of shame, in thus disturbing the ashes of the illustrious dead, was supposed to be the notorious Benjamin Lett, who was sentenced to Auburn State Prison, for nine years, for attempting to burn the steamer Great Britain, while lying in the port of Oswego, on Lake Ontario.





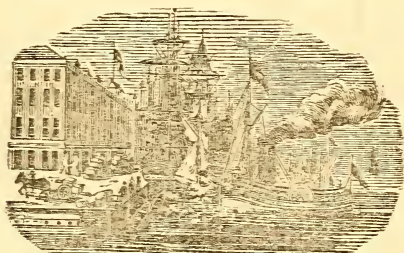
BROCK'S MONUMENT.







## LEWISTON.



American Hotel, and Steamboat Landing.

Seven miles below the Falls is the village of Lewiston. It lies upon a beautiful tract of country, which extends south from the mountain ridge to Lake Ontario, and east and west two hundred miles.

Lewiston, before the building of the Erie Canal, was a place of considerable importance. Upon the completion of the canal, this trade ceased, and the village has increased but slowly.

The Suspension Bridge, at this point, is one of the most remarkable works of the day. Spanning the Niagara, it is supported by ten cables—five upon a side—resting upon towers of cut stone, the ends running into the earth, and secured to anchors drilled into the solid rock, six or seven feet. Each cable is composed of two hundred and fifty strands of No. 10 wire, placed parallel and firmly bound together, the whole length, by another wire. The distance between the points of suspension, or span, is one thousand and forty feet; width of road-way, twenty feet. This, the longest suspension bridge in the world, was erected by a few gentlemen upon each side of the river, in 1850, under the superintendence of E. W. Serrell, C. E.

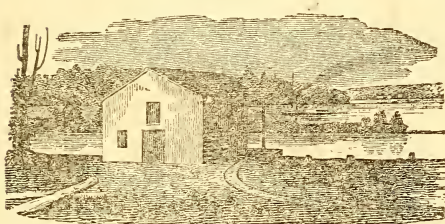


## EXPENSES.

A delicate subject. Some people complain of being taxed at every turn. They go on the Island for 25 cents; on the Whirlpool grounds for 25 cents; on Chasm Tower for 12½ cents; visiting and viewing those three unparalleled scenes, they pay but little more than half as much as they would have to pay Ole Bull for an hour's fiddling. There is no imposition in this, and it is a fair sample of other like charges. The 50 cents paid for the trip on the Maid of the Mist is very low, and has never remunerated the proprietors—the trip is worth a dollar to every man who has the money, and can afford to pay it, and he should give it voluntarily. As to the Hotels at the Falls, it is believed they are not surpassed by any, and that their charges, if there is any difference, are more moderate, though justice entitles them to higher rates as they do but three or four months business in the year. Ferriages, Bridge tolls, Omnibus fare, Hack hire, Steamboat and Railroad fare, people have to pay every where, and to pay them should not at the Falls be considered as peculiar. That a certain class do practice impositions here, as they do every where, is not to be doubted; the experienced traveler only can guard against such. The sum of the matter is, that every prudent man can regulate his expenses at the Falls, as well as at any other place, according to his wishes or his means, without grumbling, which is too nearly allied to meanness to be practised by a gentleman.



## SCHLOSSER.



At Schlosser, two miles above the Falls, was an old French fort; this passed into the hands of the English, and an old chimney is still standing which belonged to their mess-house.

Chippewa, a small Canadian village is directly opposite this place. Just above the village are the Plains of Chippewa. This was the battle ground on the 5th of July, 1814, of the Americans under Gen. Brown, and the English commanded by Gen. Rial. At this place two small streams empty into the Niagara; the upper one is called Street's, and the lower and larger Chippewa Creek.

Just below this point, commence the Rapids of the Niagara; the descent of the river being fifty feet before it reaches the brink of the great fall.—Visitors sometimes express surprise at the short distance the Falls can be heard; this depends altogether upon the state of the atmosphere. During fine, dry weather they are heard but a short distance; but just before a storm they can be heard from sixteen to eighteen miles. It has passed into a common saying in the surrounding country, “We are going to have a storm, the Falls roar so loudly.”



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USEFUL COMPENDIUM.

The Falls are 22 miles from Buffalo, and 14 from Lake Ontario.

They are in lat. $43^{\circ} 6'$ N. and long. $79^{\circ} 1'$ W. from Greenwich.

The Fall next New York shore is 56 rods wide and 167 feet descent. Luna Island adjoining is 20 yards in width, and the Center Fall about 10 yards.

Goat Island is about 80 rods, and the Horse Shoe fall is a $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile in a direct line across to Canada, or $\frac{1}{2}$ mile following the curve. This fall has a perpendicular descent of 164 feet.

It is estimated that 113,510,000 gallons of water pass the Falls per minute.

The depth of the water on the verge of the Horse Shoe Falls is estimated at 20 feet.

The depth of the water below the Falls is 250 ft.

The Falls are often distinctly heard at the distance of 25 miles; have been heard at Toronto 44 miles.

The cloud that rises at the Falls has been seen from Lake Erie, 100 miles distant.

The oldest dates found on the rocks at the Falls are 1711, 1726, 1745; on a tree on the island 1745.

Iris or Goat Island, received its name of Goat Island, from having some goats put on it in 1770.

The river falls from Lake Erie to Chippawa 20 ft. From thence to the Horse Shoe Fall (one mile) 154 feet; from thence to Lewiston 102 feet, making the whole descent from Buffalo to Lewiston 321 ft.

Persons known to go over the Falls formerly was about 2 in a year. Of late years the number has increased to about 4.

It was some years ago supposed that people could ramble up and down these banks, and pass under the overhanging rocks with impunity, as no accident had

happened; but as numbers have increased, accidents have occurred. Visitors should be cautious in all exposed places.

It is pleasant to visit Goat Island by moonlight—and the Lunar Bow which is formed in the rising spray of the Falls should be seen.

In the winter season the incrustations of the trees with congealed spray forms an unique and peculiar scene, on which account, many people declare, that the wintry view of the falls is superior to the summer view.

The discoverer of the Falls is not known, the earliest description of them is by Father Hennepin, 1678.

Some people are disappointed upon hearing the Falls; they expected to hear a deafening roar; the explosion of artillery; the bursting of boilers, or a roll of thunder. Still the noise is great; at night it is like the raging tempest, and the concussion of the falling water always jar the buildings in the neighboring village, sometimes less and at others more perceptibly.

A stranger was one evening preaching in the Methodist Chapel; he held on until a late hour, and at length observed, "you may think I am detaining you, but as none would like to venture out in the severe storm which is prevailing, I shall continue my remarks." One of his hearers looked from a window, and saw the clear moon peeping through the branches of the trees, which were not disturbed by a breath of wind. It was the storm like roar of the Falls that had deceived the speaker.

The Rainbow, so distinguished to the Falls, is seen on the American side in the forenoon, and on the Canada side in the afternoon.

CAVE OF THE WINDS.

This cave was first discovered by Joseph W. Ingraham, Esq., who gave it the name of the Cave of the winds.

It was first entered by Mr. Geo. Sims and Mr. B. H. White of Niagara Falls village. They passed over the rocks, and through a part of the sheet of water. It was, they alleged, difficult and hazardous, but they acknowledged themselves fully rewarded in the new and magnificent scene which the lofty cavern presented. It is near one hundred and twenty feet wide, about thirty feet deep and a noble arch hanging over head eighty feet high and the sheet of water rolling in front.

This cave has been heretofore inaccessible, except by a perilous adventure in a boat from the ferry, and landing on the rocks between the central and the American Falls, and entering the cave on the opposite side, until a few years since, when the proprietors of the island, at considerable expense, excavated the rocks, erected steps, and contracted the stream above in such a manner that this cave can now be visited with ease and safety. Guides and oil cloth dresses can be had on the island, for passing to the cave; and in going under the sheet of water in the afternoon, when the sun is shining a perfect circular rainbow is visible.

Visitors can pass out and stand in front, from which the view is grand and sublime.

One great curiosity of the Cave of the Winds, is the innumerable quantity of eels that may be seen upon first entering, piled in heaps, basking in the rushing spray, but immediately disappear in the rapids upon any disturbance.



Entrance to the Cave of the Whale.



FRANCIS ABBOTT.

THE HERMIT OF THE FALLS.

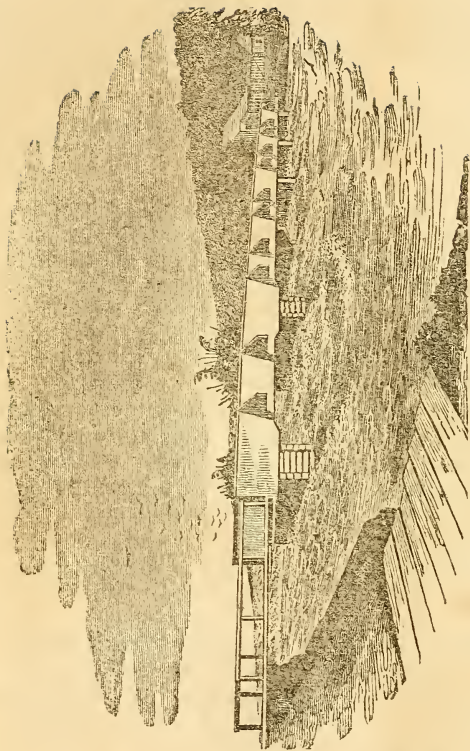
This singular personage made his appearance in the village of Niagara Falls, on the 18th of June, 1829, in the afternoon: he was a man of prepossessing appearance, dressed in a long loose gown, under his arm a roll of blankets, a port-folio, a flute and a large book, which constituted his baggage. His singular appearance attracted the attention of all who saw him; he passed the gazing crowd without paying the least attention; repaired to a small inn in the lower part of the village, engaged a room of the landlord for a week; in his stipulation with the landlord, the room he occupied was to be his own exclusively, and but a part of his food was to be prepared by the family. He then repaired to the village library, gave his name, borrowed books, and purchased a violin: shortly after he visited the library again, expressed his admiration of the Falls, and the surrounding scenery, and his intention of remaining a month, and perhaps more. He shortly after requested permission of the proprietor of Iris Island, to build a hut on Moss Island, (one of the Three sisters,) where he might live alone, and secluded from human society, but was refused: whereupon he took up his residence in a small room in the log building standing near the head of Iris Island.— Thus near two years, he enjoyed in almost perfect seclusion, the solitude of this romantic retreat.— There are certain spots on Iris Island that are consecrated to his memory: one is near Moss Island, (one of the Three sisters,) where “he trod the sentry’s lonely round” all seasons of the year, and all hours of the night: under the little cascade between Iris and Moss Islands was his favorite resort

for bathing. At all hours of the night he could be seen walking, at a rapid pace from one end of Terrapin Bridge to the other. At that time Terrapin Bridge extended over the verge of the precipice, and a single timber eight inches square extended from the main bridge some eight feet; upon the extreme point of this projecting timber, he would be seen carelessly sitting at all hours of the night, and sometimes hanging under it by his hands and feet for ten minutes at a time.

After having passed two winters upon this island undisturbed, he left it, in consequence of a family moving into the house he occupied, and built him a rude hut on the main shore, near Point View, where he resided until his existence was terminated by drowning, near the ferry landing, while bathing, at two o'clock, P. M. on the tenth day of June, 1841. Ten days afterwards, his body was found at Fort Niagara, fourteen miles below the Falls; recognized, brought back, and decently interred in the burial ground of this village. After his decease, a number of citizens repaired to his cabin; the door was guarded by his faithful dog, his cat occupied his couch, his books and musical instruments were scattered in confusion around his hut; but no scrap of writing could be found to reveal his secrets; not even his name.

It is said he composed much, and always committed it to paper in Latin, and destroyed them as soon as composed. But very little of the history of this singular individual is known; he had a highly cultivated mind, performed well on various musical instruments, had a prepossessing appearance, but his manner of living was extremely filthy. He had a stipend allowed yearly by his friends in England,





VIEW OF BATH ISLAND BRIDGE.

competent to his support. It has since been ascertained, that he was the son of the late John Abbott, of Plymouth, England, a member of the Society of Friends. The spot where stood the cabin of Francis Abbott, is Point View: he selected this spot as a favorite view of the Falls. The cause that led this unfortunate individual to exile himself from human society remain as yet a sealed book.

BATH ISLAND BRIDGE.

As the object of this work is to make the visitor perfectly familiar with every point of interest connected with the Falls, without further inquiry, and to answer all questions that might naturally be asked relative to this great natural wonder, and its surrounding scenery, the author thinks it would not be amiss to answer the many inquiries concerning the construction of Bath Island Bridge.

The first bridge from the main shore to the islands was constructed in the year 1817, near the Grist Mill, across to Iris Island. This bridge was carried away by the ice the ensuing spring. In the year 1818, a bridge was constructed where Bath island Bridge now stands, by the Hon. Augustus Porter, and General P. B. Porter, brothers, the proprietors of the island. This bridge was constructed in the following manner: A substantial pier was sunk at the water's edge, and filled permanently with stones; long timbers were then projected over this abutment the distance they wished to sink the next pier, and were loaded in the rear with a sufficient weight of stone to prevent their poising into the stream with any required weight that might be necessary upon their extremity while sinking the next pier; to make them more safe, legs were framed through the ends

of the projecting timbers, resting upon the rocky bottom; planks were then laid upon the timbers, forming safe but temporary bridge; a small wooden frame was then let down from the end of this bridge into the water, and held by means of ropes until it was filled with stones and sunk permanently on the bottom; large timbers were then framed so as to connect them at the corners, forming an oblong square; these were placed around the small stationary pier, one upon the other, until of sufficient height, and then filled with stone, thus forming a permanent pier, the long projecting timbers were then carried forward and placed upon the pier, and so onward until the bridge reached Bath island. Thus a permanent bridge, safe for the heaviest loaded teams, was constructed at the expense of about \$2,000, which reflects great credit upon the enterprising proprietors, who were the sole projectors.

In the spring of 1839, the timbers of the bridge were examined, and found to be in a decayed condition; and during the summer of the same year the present bridge was constructed. It was much less difficult to sink the piers of the present bridge than the former, although they were sunk in the same manner, but having the old bridge to sink them from, rendered it less hazardous, and the communication with the island was not interrupted.

The present bridge cost near \$3,000: and was repaired in 1851; it was while this bridge was building that Mr. Chapin was precipitated from a scaffold into the rapids, and rescued from the small island below, by Mr. Robinson, which circumstance has been mentioned before.

ICE BRIDGES.

In consequence of warm weather in winter, sufficient to break up the ice in Lake Erie, it is forced down the Niagara river in such quantities, as to completely cover the whole surface of the river; this ice passing over the rapids, and descending the falls, is broken into small cakes, and forms what is termed slush ice; this ice passes down the current in a body and partially congeals, so as to form across the whole width of the river, a solid body of moving ice. The river being much wider near the falls than below the consequence is that it sometimes stops; after having stopped, the running ice above passes underneath that which is stationary in such quantities, that the whole mass covering the river from Table Rock to Iris Island, and from Iris Island to the ferry landing (leaving an opening near the American Fall) is raised the height of from thirty to sixty feet; the surface rough and uneven from having been thrown up from the convulsions of the water beneath, leaving openings or cracks from one to ten feet in breadth and a mile in length.

On the morning of the 30th day of January, 1842, it was discovered that the ice had wedged in upon both shores, leaving but a strip some six rods in width only that appeared to move; the friction of the moving ice in contact with the immense body that was stationary, was so great, that the noise mingling with the rush of water and ice over the cataract, resembled more a convulsion of the earth than the wonted roar of the Falls. This was the most sublime spectacle ever witnessed at Niagara Falls. After having ground its course through these mountains of ice for an hour or more, the proud torrent of Niagara was subdued, the ice stopped, and


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her green waters were veiled from human vision until the first day of the ensuing April, when the proud waters, by the hot rays of the sun, once more unveiled their broad surface, and she was again Niagara.

During the stay of the ice, there was safe crossing although the path was very uneven, and people crossing usually carried long poles to assist them in passing down steep declivities, and crossing the openings; from the bank above could be seen people crossing and recrossing, in all directions, some with long poles making an excursion down the river on the centre of the stream, others crossing from the ferry house on the Canada side to the foot of Iris island, and ascending the Biddle Steps. The rugged path over which they had to travel was in many places hazardous; the towering peaks of ice around which they had to choose their path, would obscure them from sight leaving the beholder in suspense whether they were safe or enveloped in the current through the openings in the ice. On the Canada side, near the centre of the river, could be seen the sentries, wrapped in their winter's uniform, "walking their lonely round," in a hard trod path, surveying the river above and below, to detect, if possible, the deserter in his attempt to escape: but notwithstanding the vigilance of the guard, from whose position could be seen an individual crossing on any part of the ice, you could frequently behold the deserter dashing from the thicket upon the ice half a mile below, and among the whizzing balls from the sentry, make his escape unharmed to the American shore. Some fifteen or twenty British soldiers made their escape during the stay of the ice.

On the American side, near the centre of the river there was a building erected as a house of refresh-



ment, warmed by a stove to make their guests comfortable during their sojourn ; the proprietor dealing out his refreshments and receiving his money with as much unconcern as though his house stood upon terra firma.

It is not very frequent that the ice thus stops in the Niagara river: It had never been known to stop but twice before in the last twenty-five years.

In the winters of 1849 and 1850, ice bridges, were formed and remained for a considerable time—the latter about six weeks.

#### INCIDENTS.

Not a single year passes but there are more or less accidents of a fatal character occurring around the Falls. The one now recorded is one of the most heart-rending that has ever been witnessed, from the circumstance of the sufferer having a perfect knowledge of his approaching fate, for one hour whilst gliding upon the swift but unruffled bosom of the Niagara, for three miles above the rapids and fatal cataract.

On Tuesday, the 16th day of May, 1843, a man by the name of Mickey Morgan, a resident of Chippewa, (Upper Canada) was engaged in hauling sand from the river, with a span of horses, three miles above the Falls, and two miles above Chippewa; in backing his team into the river, (not being aware of the boldness of the shore,) his waggon was precipitated off the steep bank, dragging his team into the water the depth of several feet; one of the horses disengaged himself from the waggon, and swam ashore; the other was drowned. The box of the waggon floated from the wheels into the stream, with Morgan clinging to it; the wind being strong off



shore, drove the unfortunate man and his frail bark into the swift smooth current; a boat was at hand, but instead of being manned and sent to his relief, was let loose to drift into the stream, and was carried by the wind above the man, across to Navy Island; and as Morgan was no swimmer he could not avail himself of the passing boat; this being the only boat within two miles, all hopes of a rescue from this point was cut off. The last resort was a rescue from the mouth of the Chippewa creek, half a mile above the rapids, which might have been easily effected with proper management. Had one of the bystanders taken a horse and rode in haste to Chippewa, and had a boat in readiness at the mouth of the creek, the unfortunate Morgan might have been rescued with ease while passing; but instead of taking energetic measures, one of the bystanders started for Chippewa on foot, taking the road on the bank of the river, passing down side by side in conversation with the fated Morgan, holding out inducements of a rescue at Chippewa. But Morgan protested against the practicability of his escape from "that fearful leap," constantly exclaiming "that he was a lost man, and nothing could save him." His predictions proved too true. When the messenger arrived at Chippewa, no craft larger than a small canoe could be obtained, and before that could be brought to the mouth of the creek, the unfortunate Morgan still clinging to the box of the waggon, was so near the rapids, that it was considered hazardous to attempt the rescue in a frail canoe, and the beholders stood like monuments, in death-like silence, gazing a vacant stare at his receding form, until a shriek from every beholder broke the monotony of the scene—as the rapids engulfed, in



their maddened embrace, this unfortunate mortal and fellow townsman.

The conduct of those who were present when the accident first occurred, with ample facilities at hand to have rescued Morgan, needs no comment; we leave them to their own reflections. Pieces of waggon were picked up in the eddies below the Falls, but the body of Morgan has not been found.

He has left a wife and several children to mourn the loss of a husband and father, by a horrid death.

#### DEATH OF YORK AND KENEDY.

John York and William Kenedy were two individuals who were engaged in illicit importation of goods into Canada. They resided two and a half miles above Chippewa, in Canada, on the bank of the Niagara river. On the evening of the 28th of November, 1841, they crossed the river, and landed at Schlosser, for the purpose of taking over a load of whiskey. They placed six barrels of whiskey in their canoe, a heavier load than their boat was capable of carrying: of this, however, they must have been aware; but notwithstanding they were willing to risk their safety; they started out, and while in the centre of the river their boat capsized. Kenedy being an excellent swimmer, succeeded in making a small island near the head of the rapids, called Grass Island; but the night being cold, and he having been in the water some time, perished upon the island, from cold and fatigue. Their cries were heard by the residents at Schlosser, but as noises are so frequently upon the river, it excited no alarm: thus these unfortunate individuals perished by their own folly, and left each a family of children. York, it is supposed, passed down the rapids, and went over



the Falls, as fragments of his boat and cargo were seen the next morning floating in the eddy below the Falls. Some ten days afterwards, two individuals crossed in a boat to Grass Island, for the purpose of shooting geese, and discovered a human body lying on his face some twenty feet from high water mark: they took the body in tow and brought it to the main shore; and upon a post mortem examination, it was found to be the body of Wm. Kenedy, who started from Schlosser on the 28th of November with a load of whiskey, in company with John York. The body having been found upon dry land lying upon its face led to the conclusion that he must have reached the island alive.

#### DEATH OF DR. HUNGERFORD.

As long as the Falls of Niagara have been known and visited by thousands and tens of thousands, and almost every accessible rock has received the tread of the awestruck visitor with impunity, yet Dr. Hungerford was the individual selected by fate to fall a prey to the crumbling rocks in the very footsteps of thousands who had there gazed at those scenes before him.

On the 27th day of May, 1839, at about ten o'clock in the forenoon, Dr. Hungerford, of West Troy, N. Y. in company with Mr. Nile of Columbus, O. and their guide, had passed down the Biddle steps, and taken the path leading to the Central Fall; while passing under Hog's Back Point, they stopped to view the river and the American Fall; as they were about to proceed to the Central Fall, the air above them was discovered to be filled with falling earth and stones; all sprang to escape; the unfortunate Dr. Hungerford was struck to the ground; he was raised by his companions and carried to



more secure place ; and upon laying him down, to their great surprise, the vital spark had fled ; he who but an instant before was gazing with delight upon the wonders that surrounded him on all sides—who had written that moment in his sketch book “ I consider these rocks my enemies,” had found his prediction verified, and with the pencil in his hand, with which he left the record, he lay a mutilated corpse. The rocks had struck him on the back part of the head, shattered his skull and broke his shoulder ; he breathed his last without the slightest convulsion.

About ten o'clock Dr. Hungerford passed over Bath Island Bridge with a light step, in high spirits, conversing in a humorous tone with his friend Mr. Nile, upon the survey they were about to make of nature's greatest wonder : in one short hour how changed the scene ; instead of seeing Dr. Hungerford returning with a glow of satisfaction upon his brow, his body repassed the bridge, lying upon his back, in a cart, his legs hanging over the afterpart, and drawn by a crowd of citizens, and not a word to break the silence of the funeral march ; his friend Mr. Nile, and guide following in the rear—horror-struck at the scenes which had passed before their eyes the last half hour of their existence.

While Dr. Hungerford was standing on Hog's Back, before descending the bank, he made the following entry in his sketch book :

“ I fear not, I dread not, though cataracts oppose ;  
The rocks that support me, I rend as my foes.”

There is nothing singular in the event that caused the death of Dr. Hungerford ; but it is the first accident of the kind that ever occurred at this place, and thousands may stand upon that once fatal spot and another disaster of the kind may never again be witnessed.



Written for the Table Rock Album.

BY JOHN G. SAXE.

See Niagara's torrent pour over the height,  
How rapid the stream ! how majestic the flood  
Rolls on, and descends in the strength of his might,  
*As a monstrous great frog leaps into the mud !*

Then, see, o'er the waters in beauty divine,  
The rainbow arising, to gild the profound—  
The Iris, in which all the colors combined,  
*Like the yellow and red in a calico "gownd !"*

How splendid that rainbow ! how grand is the glare  
Of the sun through the mist, as it fervently glows,  
When the spray with its moisture besprinkles the air  
*As an old washerwoman besprinkles her clothes !*

Then see, at the depth of the awful abyss.  
The whirlpool careering with limitless power,  
Where the waters revolve perpetually round,  
*As a cooper revolves round a barrel of flour !*

The roar of the waters ! sublime is the sound  
Which forever is heard from the cataract's steep !  
How grand ! how majestic ! how vast ! how profound !  
*Like the snore of a pig when he's buried in sleep !*

The strong mountain oak and the tall towering pine,  
When plunged o'er the steep with a crack and a roar,  
Are dashed into atoms—to fragments as fine  
*As a pipe when 'tis thrown on a hard marble floor.*

And O ! should some mortal—how dreadful the doom—  
Descend to the spot where the whirlpool carouses,  
Alas ! he would find there a rocky tomb,  
*Or, at least, he'd be likely to fracture his "trousers."*























